



WAR IS A RACKET

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SADDAM HUSSEIN may be stubborn and determined, but he is no madman, and President Bush should not compare him to Adolf Hitler, says former Texas governor John Connally after meeting Saddam. "Nothing in his past actions justify that harsh characterization. We're not dealing with a madman at all. He's obviously a tough man and a cruel man. But it's obvious he has the people of his country behind him." (Reuter, 12/19)

THE US COMMERCE DEPT. approved sales of \$700 million worth of sensitive equipment to Iraq in recent years, including 20+ shipments of biological agents, according to information obtained by a congressional panel. The department also approved sales of bacteria and other biological agents to Syria, 1 of 7 nations designated by the Administration as supporters of international terrorism, according to Ted Jacobs, chief counsel of the House Subcommittee on Commerce, Consumer and Monetary Affairs. (Orange County Register, 12/7, A-35)

CASUALTY FEARS from Desert Shield prompt a crash renovation of the Air Force's huge mortuary at Dover, DE. Being rushed into place before Jan. 15th are new fencing, floodlights, paving and drainage systems to cope with possible combat deaths. A cargo warehouse at the base also is being expanded. (Wall St. Journal, ft pg 1/4/91)

LOVE BOATS: The Pentagon has requested bids for cruise ships to be used as floating R&R centers in the Persian Gulf, serving as large hotels with entertainment, bars, dancing, swimming pools, and other facilities denied by the Saudis in their country. US troops would be given in-country leave to visit the ships. (FYEO, 12/10, Box 8759, Amarillo, TX 79114, \$60)